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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR W. K. Martinez ORIGINAL DATE 2/18/2007  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 854  
SHORT TITLE Indian Graduate Center Demographic Research SB \_\_\_\_\_  
ANALYST McOlash

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$65.0	Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

Higher Education Department (HED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 854 appropriates \$65,000 from the General Fund to the Higher Education Department for expenditure in FY 2008 to conduct thorough research on the current demographics of New Mexico alumni of the American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) to determine how the Center's graduate fellowship program has impacted the welfare of Indian communities and the state overall.

The research will track educational credentials pursued and attained, employment data, leadership positions, honors, awards, and involvement in the Indian communities.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$65,000 contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

In 1969, important government positions related to Indian concerns were being filled by non-Indians who possessed the graduate education necessary to meet the job qualifications. Robert L.

Bennett (Oneida) was Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) at the time. He and John C. Rainer, Sr. (Taos Pueblo) realized that there was a lack of American Indians with professional degrees. Knowing that Indian people need financial assistance to complete their graduate work, they established American Indian Scholarships (AIS). In 1971, AIS incorporated in the state of New Mexico as a non-profit organization

In 1989, American Indian Scholarships, Inc. changed its name to become the American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC). It is still the only national non-profit organization dedicated to aiding Indian graduate students in all fields of study.

In 2004-2005, AIGC awarded fellowships and scholarships as follows:

1. AIGC - Fellowships for 381 students from 38 states and 105 tribes
2. AIGC – Gates Millennium Scholarship Program – Scholarships for 564 students from 41 states

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The Higher Education Department would be the administrator for these funds and, presumably, would conduct the research. Additional staffing might be required to support additional data collection and analysis for this request

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

As a non-profit organization, AIGC prides itself on maintaining a very low administrative cost. In fact 90% of all contributions go directly to student services towards meeting the goal of improving the cultural and economic well-being of American Indians and Native Alaskans, individually and tribally, through graduate education

### **American Indian Graduate Center – 2005 Annual Report**

#### 2004 - 2005 REVENUES

Private Contributions	\$	940,488
Federal Funding	\$	1,243,172
Gates Millennium Scholars	\$	6,399,764
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,583,424</b>

#### 2004 - 2005 EXPENDITURES

Private Scholarships	\$	433,991
Recruitment/Selection	\$	502,650
Management	\$	307,460
Graduate Fellowships	\$	1,805,146
Undergraduate Scholarships	\$	4,798,762
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,848,009</b>